

Memo

To: Board of Managers
From: Michael Younes, Director of Municipal Operations *MY*
CC: Shana Davis-Cook, Village Manager
Date: 1/4/12
Re: Update on Capital and Infrastructure Upgrade Projects

Below please find an update on the various capital and infrastructure upgrade projects currently in-process and in the planning stage:

Connecticut Avenue (MD 185) Repaving:

- There have been no further updates since last month's report.
- The State Highway Administration is scheduled to repave Connecticut Avenue between the District Line and Taylor Street (where the 4-H Center is located) this upcoming summer 2012. The paving operations will be completed during the overnight hours due to traffic volume.

PEPCO Wiring Upgrades

- In an effort to increase reliability of the Village's power infrastructure, I have requested that PEPCO complete a survey of the Village to identify locations where the existing secondary wires (the wire that your home service wire is connected to) need upgrading.
- There are several locations throughout the Village where the existing secondary wires have not been upgraded in many years. The old style secondary wire is called "open three-wire". These "open three-wire" (2 electrical and 1 bare-ground wires) sections have a very high rate of failure during storms and high wind events due to their non-ruggedized construction. Often times the open three-wire fails when a tree branch, as small as a little twig, falls on 2 of the three wires causing a short and therefore knocking out power.
- When the wire is upgraded PEPCO uses a more ruggedized configuration called "triplex".

- PEPCO representatives have advised that they will be able to join this project together with their larger system reliability initiative in this area. Next steps for PEPCO will include:
 - Designing where the triplex sections will replace the old wire.
 - Once design is complete, PEPCO will submit the drawings to the Village for review and comment.
 - Once the plans are approved by the Village, they will be submitted for construction scheduling.
 - Construction is likely to take approximately two (2) months. PEPCO currently anticipates that this project could be completed before the summer storm season.
- As the project evolves, I will provide further updates.

Street Light Upgrades

- Since my last report Chief Fitzgerald and I have meet with PEPCO representatives regarding the Village's street lighting.
- We provided PEPCO with the list of "dark spots" identified last year by staff and further developed through a follow-up survey under Chief Fitzgerald's authority.
- A total of 24 priority "dark spot" sites have been identified throughout the Village.
- In addition to a review of this list, we also took the PEPCO representatives around to see a few of the locations. PEPCO representatives commented that the meeting and field visit were helpful in allowing them to understand our concerns and intent.
- In addition to the upgrades, we discussed the possibility of increasing the wattage of the recently installed high pressure sodium bulbs. This would increase light output similar to increasing the wattage in a home fixture.
- PEPCO representatives will be providing cost estimates on the following for Board review in time for the February 2012 Regular meeting:
 1. installation of new streetlights where a pole currently exists,
 2. installation of new streetlights where poles do not exist, and
 3. retrofitting of existing streetlights with a higher wattage.
- Based on the approved CIP \$30,000 has been allocated for these improvements.

Village-wide Sidewalk Replacements:

- Village Sidewalk replacement contractor, Capitol Hardscapes, is now replacing sidewalks on Hesketh Street.
- Weather permitting the replacements on Hesketh Strett should be completed by the end of January.
- Once the sidewalk replacements along Hesketh Street are completed Capitol Hardscapes will be proceeding based on the below schedule:
 - Magnolia Parkway: February 2012
 - Oxford Street: March 2012 – Mid-April 2012

- Remaining Sidewalks on Connecticut Avenue: Mid-April 2012 – June 2012

Wisconsin Avenue Sidewalk

- There have been no further updates since last month's report.

WSSC Water Main Replacements:

- Due to delay as a result of weather and construction material availability, WSSC contractors are running approximately 1 month behind schedule.
- As a result of construction delay WSSC contractors have begun their work on Oliver Street. Once completed they will move to Cedar Parkway.
- Overall the project is still on pace for completion on time in August 2012.
- Grafton Street and Hesketh Street water mains:
 - The replacement design work for the Grafton Street and Hesketh Street water mains have begun it is anticipated that the replacement of these water mains may begin as early as the fall 2012. As more information and timing becomes available I will provide further updates.
 - The Grafton Street water main is the largest size main in the Village at 12-inches while the Hesketh Street water main is 8-inches in size, both water mains were installed 87 years ago.